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| Kinchela (The Stolen Kids) by Paul ButtigiegThe years have gone nowNot sure what sorry can doForUs boysAbused 5LonelyNot just blackBlack and blueSo who loved us?Then 10Who watched the watcher?As he made love to meAndLusted over my young bodyWe climbed through windows 15We ran awayCriminalsJustFor being black and stolen | **Hated Structure: Indian Residential School, Shubenacadie, N.S.***Rita Joe*If you are on Highway 104In a Shubenacadie townThere is a hillWhere a structure standsA reminder to many senses 5To respond like demented ones.I for one looked into the windowAnd there on the floorWas a deluge\* of a miseryOf a building I held in awe 10Since the day I walked into the ornamented door.There was grime everywhereAs in buildings left alone or unused.Maybe to the related tales of long ago 15Where the children lived in laughter, or abused.I had no wish to enterNor to walk the hallsI had no wish to feel the floorsWhere I felt fear 20A beating heart of episodesI care not to recall.The structure stands as if to say:I was just a base for theoryTo bend the will of children 25I remindUntil I fall.\*Deluge: a great flood; a great outpouring (of words, paper, emotion, etc.) |

**Questions about Kinchela**

1. What do you think happened at Kinchela?
2. Why do you think the poet says “not sure what sorry can do” in line 2?
3. Why is the boy ‘black and blue’ in line 8?
4. How is a pun used in lines 7-8? Explain how it is a pun.
5. Why do you think the poet uses the pun in lines 7-8? How does it add to the effectiveness of the poem?
6. What does it mean in line 11 when the poet says “Who watched the watcher”? Why do you think he says this? How does it add to the meaning of the poem?
7. What happens near the end of the poem in lines 15-18?
8. How is the last line of the poem ironic? (Irony-. A difficult term to define, irony can refer to a manner of expression or a quality in the thing perceived.  In both cases, irony involves the perception of discrepancy, usually between apparent and real significance. Examples- A man who is a traffic cop gets his license suspended for unpaid parking tickets. Or The Titanic was promoted as being 100% unsinkable; but, in 1912 the ship sank on its maiden voyage.)
9. What do you feel when you read this poem? Why?
10. Find two examples of alliteration in the poem.

**Questions about Hated Structure**

1. What building is the speaker describing in this poem? What does it look like?
2. What are the strongest feelings you get from this poem? Why?
3. What do you think the poet means in lines 5-6 of the poem?
4. According to the *Canadian Oxford High School Dictionary*, the word *awe*, is “a feeling of respect combined with fear or wonder.” Why do you think Rita Joe chose the word *awe* rather than *fear* or *hatred* to describe how she felt about the school she attended as a child?
5. How is the image of the dirty, grimy school in the third stanza somewhat symbolic (or fitting) of what happened there? ( A stanza is a verse in a poem)
6. Why does the speaker have “no wish to enter” the school in stanza 4?
7. What feeling is evoked by the lines “a beating heart of episodes / I care not to recall”? What could these episodes have been?
8. Examine the last few lines of the poem. What does it mean by “I remind / Until I fall”?
9. Find examples of the following poetic devices in the poem: allusion, personification, hyperbole, metaphor, pun.